

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT 25X1A

COUNTRY Czechoslovakia
SUBJECT Czech Factory to Make Submarine Equipment
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1. As of 6 Jan 54 the Czechoslovak state factory Moravskoslezská Armaturka at Dolní Benešov in Silesia was placed at the disposal of Soviet authorities. Before World War II this factory made Rex cars and during World War II it was incorporated in the Hermann Göring combine. After the war it was nationalized and converted to the production of war materiel for the Czechoslovak Army.
2. Since 1948 Soviet authorities have repeatedly requested the management of the factory, but the transfer was always delayed by the Czechoslovak Government. A new demand was forwarded on 28 Dec 53 in such vigorous terms that the government finally agreed to the transfer.
3. The factory will be used for the production of equipment for Soviet submarines. Submarine equipment has been given top priority in Soviet production of war materiel in 1954.
4. The equipment at Moravskoslezská Armaturka was installed by German technicians and is of the most modern character. Due to the opposition of workers' committees to the transfer to Soviet management, Jindřich Kotál, Deputy Minister of the Interior, has been sent to Dolní Benešov with full powers.

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